

rights, enact job training, pass Medicare prescription drugs, cut prescription drug prices, and extend unemployment benefits. People also want us to reform our elections and voting apparatus to ensure that every vote counts and that what happened in 2000 and 2002 in Florida and elsewhere never ever happens again.

People want us to enact a real Patients' Bill of Rights with teeth and effectiveness and not the sham Republican legislation that is languishing and waiting in going to conference. They want us to help school districts across America get class size down to 18 students in each classroom. They want us to pass school construction to promote safety in every public school, create a stable learning environment and meet the staggering backlog of unmet school construction needs.

People want us to close the pay gap between men and women. They want us to overturn new White House rules and restore real medical privacy protections to every American patient. They want us to make polluters, not taxpayers, foot the cleanup bill and maintain the Super Fund program that cleans up toxic waste. They want us to enhance our hate crimes law and provide more resources to States and local jurisdictions to help investigate and prosecute these heinous crimes. They want us to reinstate worker safety protections to prevent repetitive stress injuries in the workplace, just to name a few.

This agenda is worthy of the American people's highest dreams and hopes for their family. It is worthy of people's real concerns that are there on a day-to-day basis. It is incumbent upon us all to stop wasting time in this House, to stop being irrelevant to the people's real agenda, and to get about the business of the American people's domestic security agenda. Let us do it on a bipartisan basis, let us enact an agenda that creates opportunity for all to fulfill their potential and let us not adjourn before it is done. Let us get to work.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until 2 p.m.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord of all creation and Wisdom for the ages, we turn to You in prayer. To

turn to You is to humble one's self as a person, as a Nation. Although we often approach You with hesitancy, it is only because of our sins or weakness of faith, for You are always present and ever faithful, for You alone are God.

To step into Your holy presence, O Lord, is to be boldly revealed, as in a hall of piercing mirrors. Before You all our fears, resentments of the past and deepest fault lines come to light. But receive us once again as Your very own.

Guide us as Your people. Accomplish in us Your righteous purpose. Shape the body of this House to shoulder its proper responsibilities so to bring forth justice across our land and peace to the world. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ISAKSON led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, September 28, in honor of National Public Lands Day, a 3,000-mile trek crossing six states and 14 national forests will end in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Last July 31, two teams began this unique journey with one group departing from New Mexico and the other from Montana. Their travels were solely on public lands and consisted of hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, canoeing, boating and driving SUVs.

Those Americans making this trek also worked to educate people, especially our youth, on the importance of public lands. Public lands are a tremendous source for clean air, clean water and open space, and they provide important natural resources, such as minerals, coal, gas, oil, forage and timber.

It is my hope that National Public Lands Day will remind all of America of the important role public lands play in protecting ecosystems, as well as contributing to our national economy and our national defense.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, Congress must enact responsible public land policies.

GIVE PEACE A CHANCE

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I am so glad that the people of the Seventh District, like many people throughout America, have no compunctions letting you know where they stand. For the last week I have been getting telephone calls, e-mails, i-mails, people stopping me on the street, and they are saying, let us give peace a chance. Let us go slow on this war business. Let us let the inspectors inspect. Let us let them do their job.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with them.

MIDSHIPMAN EDWIN JOSEPH O'HARA

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago, on September 27, 1942, Midshipman Edwin Joseph O'Hara saw two enemy surface raiders suddenly appear out of the morning mist to attack the vessel he was on. Heavy guns of one raider pounded his ship, and machine guns fired from the other, spraying the decks for one-half hour at close quarters.

The heroic gun crew of O'Hara's ship exchanged shot for shot with the enemy, placing 35 shells into the waterline of one of the raiders, until its crew was forced to abandon their sinking ship. All of the gun crew were killed or wounded when an enemy shell exploded the magazine of their gun.

At the explosion, Midshipman O'Hara ran aft and single-handedly served and fired the damaged gun with five live shells remaining in the ready box, scoring direct hits near the waterline of the second raider. O'Hara was mortally wounded in this action.

With boilers blown up, engines destroyed, masts shot away, and ablaze from stem to stern, the ship finally went under, carrying O'Hara and several of his shipmates with her.

O'Hara was awarded the Merchant Marine Distinguished Service Medal for his bravery, bravery we should never forget.

TOURING THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday a group of staffers for Members who are part of the Congressional Caucus on Missing and Exploited children took part of a tour and briefing at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and I want to thank them today for taking the time to see